



TORRANCE PRESS

VOL. X

1 2

1406 CRAVENS AVE.—FA 8-2345

10c PER COPY

MONDAY, JULY 7, 1958

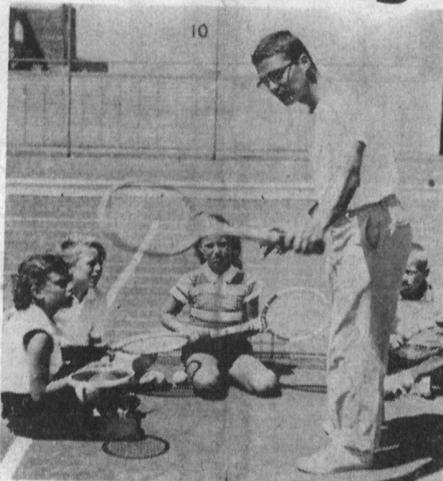
NUMBER 24

Metal Chief Burned as Explosion Rips Plant; 5 Fires Mar Holiday

Summer Program in Full Swing



LITTIEST LEAGUER—Monty Meadows gets set to hurl a fast ball to Bob Hodges in Torrance Park. Monty seems dwarfed by baseball mitt but that doesn't prevent him from having fun learning how to play baseball.



TENNIS ANYONE?—That's the invitation issued by Dennis Moss, who gets the rapt attention of Sharon Bibbs, Jeffrey Stone, Alice Ehman and Steven Kinner as he shows them how to hold a tennis racket on court at South High School.

Recreation Program Swings Into 'Pirate Day' Events

The summer program at Torrance parks and playgrounds is now in full swing, with activities planned for every age group.

The program includes supervised activities including games, instructions and tournaments of various types, as well as such individual events as family picnics. Beginning this week, the theme for youngsters will be Jolly Roger Month, and features such activities as Walk the Plank, Jump the Reef, Cutlass Duel (with spaghetti), Toss the Anchor and Blow the Man Down.

The park schedules for the following week are:

El Nido Park
Wednesday is the special day at El Nido Park. Using the nautical theme of Jolly Roger, El Nido will have a "Water Carnival Week" that will begin at noon with a picnic (bring your own lunch) followed with water games at 1 and ending with a water treasure hunt at 2 p.m.

El Retiro Park
Special events at El Retiro Park are spread out over the entire week with no one day receiving more attention than the rest. If past performances are any criteria, the hamburger feed on Wednesday at noon-time should be of special interest to most persons. This past week over 100 persons bought burgers and had their lunch at

the park. In addition, a "Jolly Roger's" day will be held on July 11 at 1 p.m.

McMaster Park
About 65 persons, both children and adults, attended McMaster Park's first Family Night of the summer last week. A similar program is planned for this Thursday. Events will include games, a talent show and a movie.

Torrance Park
A harbor cruise is on top for the kids at Torrance Park on July 10. The \$1 charge will include the ticket, transportation and insurance. Each child should bring his own lunch. The bus leaves at 10 a.m. To guarantee yourself a seat it would be advisable to place your reservation early.

Sea Aire Park
All Pirates should attend Sea Aire Park July 10 as a treasure hunt is being held. No one seems to know what the loot is or where it is located, but all are invited to attend the event and try their luck at finding the booty.

Walteria Park
Cabrillo Beach is the destination for the kids at Walteria Park on July 8. The \$1 cost includes transportation, insurance and a snack. Because the number of seats on the bus are limited, it would be well to place your reservation early.

Fireworks Blamed for Blaze Two Hurt in Plant Explosion

Five structural and grass fires, with at least one definitely started by fireworks, kept Torrance firemen hopping on the Fourth of July. The blazes, none of them causing major damage, disrupted an otherwise quiet and accident-free holiday. Police said they received a series of calls about illegal fireworks. "Everyone you could hear was illegal," one officer pointed out.

Police said some cherry bombs and other loud firecrackers were smuggled in from Mexico and were sold here at a high profit.

Firemen said that fireworks set off by youngsters started a grass fire which spread to a chicken house belonging to Jesus Perez of 2060 Del Amo Blvd.

The grass fire spread to a pile of scrap lumber and from there ignited the shed. A witness told firemen that they saw children playing with fireworks just before the fire started.

Another structural fire charred a child's play house on the property owned by E. P. Snowball of 2416 W. 164th st.

Fire swept through a private dump at Western ave. and 178th st., and two grass fires, at 21048 Amie, which occupied smokeeaters for an hour and another one in the rear of 5050 Deelane, were reported.

Police records showed a few minor traffic accidents in which no persons were injured, a series of thefts and burglaries and drunk arrests on an otherwise quiet holiday.

Water Pact Approved

A contract under which Broadway-Hale Store would advance money for the installation of water mains to the Del Amo Shopping Center to the Dominguez Water Co., was approved by the State Public Utilities Commission.

Broadway would advance \$69,727, which would be repaid out of revenues for the next 32 years.

Wife, Enraged Over Mate's Bad Habits—Eating—Pulls Knife

Henry Manuel Garrido, 24, of 910 1/2 Pacific Coast hwy., was nursing a sore cheek today because he was hungry.

He told deputies at the Lennox Sheriff's station that he was fixing his breakfast Thursday morning when his wife, Sandra, 22, told him he was making too much noise and angrily dumped his food into the garbage disposal.

Garrido said he put his shirt on and returned to the kitchen to fix a sack lunch to take to work.

At this his wife became enraged and lunged at him with a steak knife, he told deputies. Mrs. Garrido took her husband to Harbor General Hospital where he was given 30 stitches for a one and three-quarter inch cut on his cheek.

Zone Case Decision Expected

Decision on whether industrially zoned land should be made available for large-scale residential development, will be made Tuesday when the City Council holds a public hearing on the subject.

It will have to decide whether 97 acres at Crenshaw and Sepulveda blvds., now designated for manufacturing use, should be rezoned to permit construction of apartment houses and stores.

Application for rezoning was made by Bjorklund and Smith of Los Angeles.

The Planning Commission recommended denial of the request by a 5 to 3 vote after conducting two hearings. The council will make the final decision following a third hearing.

The rezoning is opposed by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

School officials also pointed out that if substantial rezoning of vacant areas, now held for eventual industrial use is made, it will require the construction of a fifth high school and several more elementary schools.

The chief metallurgist was seriously burned when an explosion ripped through a metal building at the Hi-Shear Rivet Tool Co., 2600 247th st., Thursday.

Doctors at Torrance Memorial Hospital said that Orlo Brown, 40, of San Gabriel, received second and third degree burns on his face, chest and arms.

Another employee of the heat treatment department at the aircraft firm, Earl Hyde, 22, of Inglewood, received minor burns.

Company officials said the metal building was rocked by the explosion Thursday noon and that it was set off by chemical action in the tanks.

The entire building was shaken, with considerable damage to the walls, roof and some machinery.

The company makes aircraft and missile parts for the Air Force, and is also working on a plane to be used for cropdusting, according to John T. Hales, advertising manager, who acted as spokesman.

Several other employees probably escaped injury because they had just left the building for lunch.

Brown, an expert on metallurgy, is also a part time instructor at UCLA.

Space Lab Variance Approved

Buildings similar to the El Segundo plant may be erected in Torrance by the Ramo-Woolridge Company, which was given a variance for a 60-acre space science research center.

The Planning Commission recommended a variance for light manufacturing use on a tract at the northeast corner of 190th st. and Crenshaw blvd., Wednesday. At the same time it held the first of two hearings for a zone change for the same property, with the final hearing before the commission set for July 23.

Melville C. Branch, planning director for Ramo-Woolridge, told the commission that the firm is planning to erect facilities similar to the new plant it recently completed at El Segundo and Aviation blvds., El Segundo.

Although Branch refused to elaborate on his firm's plans "at this time," George Powell, city planning director, said that Ramo-Woolridge would construct a research center "as good or better" than that in El Segundo, with more parking space than required by city ordinance.

Powell said that manufacturing to be conducted at the plant will be light and harmless.

Several residents from homes to the east of the proposed site told the commission they preferred a park on the property on the grounds that they will be cut off from the rest of the city when the San Diego Freeway is constructed.

Torrance Man, Woman Nabbed on Auto Theft Charge

A Torrance man and a female companion were booked at Lennox Sheriff's Station Friday on grand theft auto charges, after he allegedly attempted to elude deputies.

Booked at Lennox were Robert Joseph Ridge, 20, of 22733 S. Main st., and Dianna Frances Whitney, 20, of 154311 Firmona ave.

Deputies said they stopped Ridge at Rosecrans ave. and Prairie ave. and that he attempted to evade arrest by driving off. After a short chase in excess of 65 m.p.h., officers stopped the car.

OUTDOOR LUNCH—Numerous families use the picnic area at Torrance Park for outdoor lunches and dinners. Having a bite here are

Vrene Robinson and Bonnie Hasty, front, and Donald Henderson, Ealain Henderson, Rita and Marlin Farrish.



MUSIC SESSION—Taking advantage of the Recreation Department's summer music program at the Civic Auditorium, are musicians Bob Solisbury, piano; John Coon, drums; Kathy Tidmarsh, clarinet; Jeffrey Carpenter, clarinet, and Dave Wright, saxophone.



FABULOUS FABLES—Elsie Pestoff, story teller at Walteria Park, seems to have captured the full attention of Bev Barron and Stanley Ekeanbo, who are listening to 'adventure yarn.

—All photos by Aladdin Studio